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PMS BUDGET
CUBA

BY JACK BELL

WASHINGTON, FEB. 25 (AP) — SEN. EVERETT M. DIRKSEN, R., ILL., SAID TODAY HE HAS UNCOVERED EVIDENCE THAT FOUR AMERICAN FLIERS WERE KILLED IN THE ABORTIVE 1961 INVASION OF CUBA.

DIRKSEN, THE SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER, SAID IN AN INTERVIEW HE HAS COMPLETED A ONE-MAN INQUIRY INTO THE DAY OF PIGS DISASTER AND IS READY TO TURN HIS FINDINGS OVER TO SENATE INVESTIGATORS.

OTHER THAN TO REPORT THE BELIEF THAT FOUR AMERICAN LIVES WERE LOST, HE DECLINED TO DISCUSS THE EVIDENCE HE HAS ASSEMBLED. SOME OF IT CAME FROM PARTICIPANTS IN THE INVASION AND SOME FROM U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL OPERATING IN THE AREA AT THE TIME.

DIRKSEN LATER TOLD REPORTERS THAT HIS STAFF HAS TAKEN ACTION TO VERIFY THE REPORTS THAT FOUR FLIERS WERE DOWNED.

BUT HE SAID THE INFORMATION HAS NOT BEEN CHECKED WITH EITHER THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT OR THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

HE SAID THE NAMES OF THE FOUR FLIERS WILL BE AVAILABLE WHEN A SUMMARY OF HIS REPORT IS MADE PUBLIC, POSSIBLY LATER THIS WEEK.

THE REPUBLICAN LEADER SAID THE FOUR FLIERS WERE SHOT DOWN IN INVASION PLANES WHICH DID NOT CARRY U.S. MARKINGS. HE GAVE NO DETAILS BUT PRESUMABLY THEY WERE IN B-26 BOMBERS DOWNED BY JET TRAINERS INHERITED BY FIDEL CASTRO FROM THE OVERTHROWN BATISTA REGIME.

NEWS STORIES AT THE TIME MENTIONED THAT ONE U.S. CIVILIAN FLIER MIGHT HAVE BEEN SHOT DOWN. THIS REPORT LATER WAS LABELED ERRONEOUS.

DIRKSEN SAID HE PLANS TO DISCUSS HIS FINDINGS WITH SEN. JOHN STENNIS, D., MISS., CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE'S PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE.

A SUBCOMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO THE CURRENT MILITARY STRENGTH OF SOVIET-DOMINATED CUBA IS EXPECTED TO GET UNDER WAY THIS WEEK. STENNIS HAS INDICATED HE REGARDS THE 1961 INVASION AS "SPILLED MILK" TO WHICH THE GROUP WOULD NOT BE JUSTIFIED IN DEVOTING MUCH TIME AT THIS POINT. DIRKSEN DISAGREED.

"IT SEEMS TO ME IT BECOMES A MATTER OF SOME IMPORTANCE WHEN EVEN FOUR AMERICAN LIVES ARE LOST," HE SAID.

DIRKSEN AND OTHER REPUBLICANS HAVE CONTENDED THAT ATTY. GEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY OPENED THE WHOLE MATTER UP TO INVESTIGATION WITH A STATEMENT THAT NO U.S. AIR COVER HAD BEEN PROMISED THE INVADERS.

SEN. BARRY GOLDWATER, R., ARIZ., ACCUSED KENNEDY OF TRYING TO MAKE A "READJUSTMENT OF FACTS" TO LAY A MAJOR SHARE OF THE BLAMES FOR THE INVASION'S FAILURE ON THE REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATION OF DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER.

SEN. HUGH SCOTT, R., PA., CONTENDED ON A TELEVISION PROGRAM YESTERDAY THAT HE AND OTHER REPUBLICANS HAD WARNED IN ADVANCE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IN THE BAY OF PIGS.

SEN. JOSEPH S. CLARK, D., PA., WHO APPEARED ON THE PROGRAM WITH SCOTT, SAID HIS COLLEAGUE WAS ENGAGING IN "MONDAY MORNING QUARTERBACKING."

"ALL OF YOUR TALK ABOUT THE BAY OF PIGS WAS AFTER THE EVENT," HE TOLD SCOTT. "IT WAS HINDSIGHT."

HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT BY ADVOCATING DRASTIC ACTION AGAINST CUBA NOW, SCOTT WAS "TRYING TO DO SOME FRIDAY AFTERNOON QUARTERBACKING . . . AND YOU DON'T KNOW THE SIGNALS."

"ON THE CONTRARY," SCOTT REPLIED, "WHAT HE SAID BEFORE THE BAY OF PIGS WAS THAT THERE SHOULD BE, IF NECESSARY, AN INVASION OF CUBA. WE HAVE NEVER ADVOCATED AN INVASION SINCE THE PRESIDENT LOST THAT ONE."

SCOTT WENT ON TO URGE AN ULTIMATUM TO THE RUSSIANS TO GET THEIR TROOPS OUT OF CUBA. HE SAID THE UNITED STATES SHOULD GET ITS LATIN AMERICAN NEIGHBORS TO JOIN IN A "TOTAL WESTERN HEMISPHERE BLOCKADE" OF CUBA.

DIRKSEN'S DECISION TO PUSH AHEAD WITH THE BAY OF PIGS INQUIRY WAS IN LINE WITH HIS REPORTED BLUNT WARNING TO PRESIDENT KENNEDY LAST WEEK THAT REPUBLICANS INTEND TO CONTINUE TO "PUNNEL" HIM ON CUBA.

DIRKSEN AND HOUSE MINORITY LEADER CHARLES A. HALLACK OF INDIANA ARE EXPECTED TO PUMP OUT SOME FRESH CRITICISMS AT THE FIRST OF THEIR "EV AND CHARLIE" SHOWS THIS WEEK.

AS FOR SCOTT'S SUGGESTION THAT THE UNITED STATES GET ITS LATIN AMERICAN NEIGHBORS TO JOIN IN A HEMISPHERE BLOCKADE OF CUBA, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES SAID LAST NIGHT HE THOUGHT THE OAS WOULD SUPPORT ANOTHER BLOCKADE.

OAS CHAIRMAN GONZALO J. FACIO NOTED THAT THE ORGANIZATION VOTED UNANIMOUSLY LAST OCTOBER TO SUPPORT THE U.S. QUARANTINE ON OFFENSIVE ARMS SHIPMENTS TO CUBA.

HE SAID THE OAS COULD TAKE "DEFENSIVE ACTION" AGAINST CUBA "BUT THE UNITED STATES IS THE ONLY ONE WHICH CAN JUDGE WHEN TO TAKE (DIRECT) ACTION." HE ADDED "IN MATTERS OF COLD WAR . . . THE OAS CAN ONLY PLAY A SECONDARY ROLE." FACIO EXPRESSED HIS VIEWS IN A TELEVISION INTERVIEW (NEC—MEET THE PRESS).

IN CUBA, CLOTHES RATIONING WAS TO GO INTO EFFECT TODAY IN THE HAVANA AREA. THE CASTRO GOVERNMENT SAID THE RATIONING IS AIMED AT DESTROYING SPECULATION AND INSURING A FAIRER DISTRIBUTION.

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TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE 25 February 1963
TO: <input type="text"/>		
ROOM NO. 7D01	BUILDING Hq	
REMARKS: F. Y. I.		
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